

**Pressing on: Paul's Personal Testimony –  
Rejecting Self-righteousness and Seeking Perfection  
Philippians 03:04–16**

**1 *Paul had achieved the height  
in self-righteousness***

- a. He had the birth
- b. He had the heritage
- c. He had social status
- d. He had faithfulness  
and knowledge
- e. He had the religion
- f. He had the religious zeal
- g. He had the morality

**2 *Paul sought to win Christ –  
His righteousness,  
His perfection***

- a. He had counted his own  
righteousness loss:  
A past experience
- b. Paul had counted all things  
as waste:  
A continuous experience
- c. Paul sought to be  
found in Christ:  
A future experience

4 Though I myself have reasons  
for such confidence.  
If anyone else thinks he has reasons  
to put confidence in the flesh,  
I have more:

5 Circumcised on the eighth day,  
of the people of Israel,  
of the tribe of Benjamin,  
a Hebrew of Hebrews;  
in regard to the law, a Pharisee;

6 As for zeal,  
persecuting the church;  
as for legalistic righteousness,  
faultless.

7 But whatever was to my profit  
I now consider loss  
for the sake of Christ.

8 What is more,  
I consider everything a loss  
compared to the surpassing greatness  
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,  
for whose sake I have lost all things.  
I consider them rubbish,  
that I may gain Christ.

9 And be found in him,  
not having a righteousness of my own  
that comes from the law,  
but that which is through faith in Christ –  
the righteousness that comes

<p>d. Paul sought a victorious experience with Christ: To know His glorious power over the world and over all that is in the world</p> <p>e. Paul sought to be resurrected from the dead: An eternal experience with Christ</p> <p><b>3 <i>Paul did not count himself as having yet arrived — he was not yet perfect</i></b></p> <p>a. He follows after his God-given purpose</p> <p>b. He worked at forgetting the past</p> <p>c. He pressed on toward the goal, toward God’s purpose in Christ Jesus</p> <p>d. He kept his mind on growing, on maturing in Christ</p> <p>e. He maintained the growth he had already achieved</p>	<p>10 From God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,</p> <p>11 And so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.</p> <p>12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.</p> <p>13 Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,</p> <p>14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.</p> <p>15 All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.</p> <p>16 Only let us live up to what we have already attained.</p>
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